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value, of the interests of American coastwise shipping, interests already protected by the possession of a complete monopoly as against all other nations, is a doubtful matter of commercial improvement. The whole country considered, the pecuniary advantage would not be large, and might easily be completely offset by accompanying disadvantages; but whatever advantage might come to this well-protected industry, it would be as nothing compared with the interests of the whole United States in carrying out the noble work of building a canal between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans for the common advantage of all nations.

The greatest interest of the United States as a free nation is to represent worthily before the world the principles of civil and religious liberty and the public efficiency and well-being which those principles develop, and thereby to promote the adoption of these principles the world over. This is a great material as well as a great moral interest. In comparison with this large interest, the interest of the United States in its coastwise vessels sinks into insignificance. By securing the repeal of that part of the act of Congress on the Panama Canal which provided for the exemption of American coastwise vessels from the payment of tolls, the American people would embrace a precious opportunity to prove that they understand their highest interest, and recognize their duty to promote it "for the benefit of mankind."

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Sulgrave Manor, a Shrine of British-American Peace.

By James L. Tryon, Director of the New England Department of the American Peace Society.

It has been proposed by the British Committee on the Centenary of Peace that Sulgrave Manor, the home of the ancestors of George Washington in England, be bought and made a shrine of pilgrimage for the English-speaking peoples. I had seen old prints of Sulgrave, but the proposition to buy it prompted me, while I was abroad last summer, to see the place for myself and consider the merits of the proposal for its purchase.

Sulgrave Manor is situated near Helmdon, a small village on the Great Central Railway, in Northamptonshire, about two hours' ride from London. The drive from the little country station is rather pretty, as you pass through rolling hay-fields, partitioned by hedges, plentifully marked with trees. Sulgrave is a straggling hamlet, accentuated by the bare Norman tower of a village church.

The house of the Washingtons is a plain white stone building, with a tile roof. The side of it that you see on your approach looks familiar enough to you if you

have seen pictures of the manor; but the garden side is a new view. A low door opens into the garden, and shows a vista through the house into a courtyard, with a row of farm buildings in the distance.

At first sight the buildings looked merely old and gray, but on making acquaintances with them, by a stay over night, I found them to be on the verge of decay. At considerable expense, however, they may be restored to their former condition of simple grandeur. Already the work of time and the weather have begun to tell upon the Washington and the royal coats-of-arms that may be seen in the gable of the porch, but these have been encased in glass for protection.

The rooms of the house contain none of the Washington furniture. That must have disappeared generations ago, when the estate went out of the hands of the family. Nor is there anything about the present furnishings that impresses you as historic. The manor house is now used as a farm-house and its furniture is of a kind suitable for a farmer's use. The kitchen is the quaintest room in it. There you will see a curious combination of open fire-place, oven, great home-cured hams on hooks above your head, and a strange collection of kitchen utensils, a saddle, a bucket or two, and other articles suspended from the ceiling or hanging on the walls. A table and some chairs, at which the family sit at meals, make up the essential characteristics of a domestic scene.

At night, when callers, who were relatives of the family, came from the village, bringing with them hearty greetings to the American guests of the occasion, greetings the more hearty because these people of Sulgrave had kindred on this side of the water, the room lost its fantastic appearance, and in its atmosphere of sociability seemed like an old-fashioned fireside at home.

The most cheerful corner in the house is the front living room of former generations. They, perhaps having less work to do, had more leisure to enjoy the manor than the present occupants can find. During my visit this room was occupied by paying guests, of whom there are generally one or two in the summer. This room is large and high-posted. Black beams that have been stained in recent years project from under the ceiling. There is a black fire-place that was once probably large enough for burning great logs. There is an ample window-seat, where you would like to sit and read of mediæval England or look out upon the field and dream. The window-seat and fire-place are among the few features which suggest that old-time elegance which the American pilgrim who knows beautiful Mount Vernon naturally anticipates.

In this room there hangs a large portrait of Washington, which was presented in trust to the mayor and town clerk of Banbury in 1909 by the Empire State Society, Sons of the American Revolution in New York. There are also hanging on the walls smaller pictures of George and Martha Washington, of Mount Vernon, and of Sulgrave Manor, the latter being a copy of a painting that was made for an American a few years ago. I found that the hostess of the manor kept up correspondence with several of her past American visitors, one of whom had expressed the hope the manor might be bought and restored by Americans.

While I was at Sulgrave I visited the church, and found there a tablet to Laurence and Amy Washington, the first of that name to own the manor.

More memorials of the family may be found at Brington, where it is identified with the lordly family of Spencer, into which the Washingtons married. The manor house at Sulgrave, however, is the one tangible and poetic object with which Washington may be best connected through his ancestors in England. It is a place that some of them once owned and in which they lived. It is distinct from every other family seat with which they or their descendants were connected.

The question will be asked, How did this property come into the Washington family? It belonged at one time to St. Andrew's priory at Northampton, and was given by Henry VIII to Laurence Washington, mayor of Northampton, one of whose descendants, John Washington, migrating to Virginia, founded the family from which, in the third generation, George Washington was descended. It was sold by the son of Laurence, and has been out of the hands of the family for more than two hundred years.

I sought for traces of the monks in the venerable dwelling, and thought I found them in the passageway that leads in through the portal of the coat-of-arms, there being a niche in the wall that has an ecclesiastical look; but this was all that reminded me of a chapel or a monastery.

If the manor is bought for a shrine or for a place of call for Americans visiting England—for example, like Harvard House, at Stratford-on-Avon—there will be plenty of room on the grounds for the entertainment of visitors. This is the suggestion of the Helmdon coachman, who, with an eye to making the place a public resort, proposes having a tea garden to which excursions may come. As Sulgrave is only about an hour's ride from Stratford-on-Avon, it might be visited in connection with that historic place. Motor parties go to the manor; people drive to it from the station, and some pilgrims go there on foot. The visitors are by no means all Americans, but are often of British nationality. On the day of my arrival our hostess had at luncheon an official of Parliament, who brought with him his sketch book and pencil, in order to make a picture of the house.

Some Americans have failed to see in the manor their anticipated home of the Washingtons, as it does not compare in its present state with the dignity and prosperity of Mount Vernon. One American refused to believe that he had come to the right place, and pointed to another house in the neighborhood as more probably the house of which his party was in quest, but the loyal custodian of the manor, who was righteously offended by his incredulity, ordered him off the grounds forthwith. This incident, however, will serve to indicate how much work will have to be done to the premises before they will satisfy the imagination of an American.

If the people of Great Britain should buy and restore the manor house, as is now proposed, and set it apart as a shrine of pilgrimage by way of celebrating the centenary of peace, the American people would undoubtedly be gratified by such a tribute of respect. The act would emphasize once more the oneness in heart of the British-American peoples, who could all claim Sulgrave as their own. If the property were bought with English money, Americans might be allowed to assist in putting the mansion in order and in erecting memorials on the premises that, besides helping to beautify them, might minister to the comfort of visitors.

There is a tradition that the Washington coat-of-arms—an example of which appears over the portal—was the origin of the stars and stripes of the American flag. An American visitor who had studied the description of the coat-of-arms in the Heralds College, about the time of his visit to Sulgrave thirty years ago, found that when the design is translated into terms of color the bars on it represent stripes of red and white. He also observed that on the original coat-of-arms the five-pointed stars were really mullets or spurs. He told the story in an entertaining manner in a number of *St. Nicholas*, which is preserved in a scrap-book at Sulgrave, and is, with the exception of an old newspaper article, written to forestall a reported attempt to take down the mansion house, stone by stone, and set it up again in America, the only literature that is available to the curious visitor. The derivation of the American flag from the Washington coat-of-arms was advocated by the writer in *St. Nicholas*, who made out an ingenious case for it, which was confirmed by a high English authority quoted by him. He illustrated his points by a series of drawings. The statement was also made by an English authority, with an air of certainty, that the figure of the raven which appears on the Washington crest, and reappears on the book-plate of Washington, was the counterpart of the American eagle. The old story is repeated that when the task of making the flag was delegated by a committee of Congress to Betsy Ross, of Philadelphia, she was instructed by Washington himself to do it from a design that was made by him. This design, it is hinted by the writer in *St. Nicholas*, might have been based upon the Washington coat-of-arms. But fascinating as this tradition is to the sentimental pilgrim, it is denied by some of the best authorities. If, however, there is nothing more than a coincidence in the appearance of the stars and stripes on the flag and on the coat-of-arms, an American cannot fail to recall it while he is at Sulgrave, where the old tradition is still credited; and, if he could return again, he would like to see there, as a reminder of it, and as evidence of our fraternal relations with Britain, "Old Glory" flying beside the "Union Jack."

The Peace Movement in the South.

By J. J. Hall, Director South Atlantic States Department.

The cause of universal peace is making rapid progress in the Southland. The churches, universities, and colleges give us a hearty welcome, and the press has been exceedingly friendly to our cause.

Recently a splendid convention was held in Raleigh, N. C., and a State peace organization was effected on Saturday, March 1. Every paper and speech advertised was delivered with but one exception, for which we had a splendid substitute in President Poteat, of Wake Forest College. On the preceding night we had an intercollegiate debate arranged by Prof. F. S. Blair. Some of the orations were of a high order, and reflected no little credit upon the young men who entered the contest. We were also fortunate in having from the Washington office Mr. Arthur Deerin Call, who was of much service to us.

The North Carolina Peace Society starts out well.